



Message from the Chair



ARD UPDATES

Dear Colleagues:

My message this month is one of thanks. From October 29-31st, representatives from the 1890 campuses came together in Atlanta, Georgia to dedicate themselves to meeting the goals and probably exceeding the expectations we all have concerning the 2015 Celebration of the signing of the Second Morrill Act. This initial planning committee meeting for the 125th Anniversary was extremely productive. Seventeen of our campuses were represented at this meeting and the participants bonded with each other, shared knowledge and expertise, and came forth with ideas and recommendations that were truly exceptional. Excellence can readily be found at the 1890 campuses and I am extremely pleased that we can benefit from these competencies to make sure that we do an outstanding job in 2015 of reaching our goals, meeting (exceeding) our expectations and convincingly telling our story which will explain why 1890s are still a U.S.A. indispensable investment. Again, on behalf of the ARD, I sincerely thank all of the committee members for their indelible contributions then and as we continue to plan and implement for 2015.

Sincerely,

Shirley Hymon-Parker



Tuskegee Board Appoints Acting President

Dr. Matthew Jenkins was appointed on October 19th as Acting President of Tuskegee University for the period required for the Board to conduct a comprehensive national search to replace previous President, Dr. Gilbert Rochon. Dr. Jenkins graduated from Tuskegee in Veterinary Medicine in 1959. After receiving his DVM, Dr. Jenkins was employed by the USDA in Boston, MA; subsequently he served as a captain in the US Air Force. Thereafter he rejoined his career in veterinary practice. Later he and his wife established SDD Enterprises, a highly successful real estate investment and property management firm with businesses in eight states. Dr. Jenkins' substantial business and fiscal affairs expertise, leadership skills, and direct and sustained knowledge of financial resources generation activities bode well for a successful period of active leadership at Tuskegee according to the Board.



Alcorn Welcomes New Leader

We also welcome Dr. **Wesley L. Whittaker**, as **Interim Associate Director of Research** in the School of Agriculture, Research, Extension, and Applied Sciences (AREAS) at Alcorn State University. Dr. Whittaker received both his Ph. D. in Agricultural and Consumption Economics and his M.S. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, and his B.S. in Agricultural Economics from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, Greensboro, N.C. Prior to his current position, Dr. Whittaker had been serving on the faculty of the University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston, Jamaica. **Congratulations Dr. Whittaker!**



Please visit the ARD website-

www.umes.edu/ard

or contact us using cbbrooks@umes.edu

ARD UPDATES



Theme: Women and Youth: Changing the Landscape of Agriculture”



December
8—10, 2013



Limited scholarships available

Application deadline: November 15, 2013
www.lead-21.org/program-application-schedule/

Limit Suspension and Continuing Appropriations Legislation

The System of Land-Grant Universities would not like its NIFA funding to remain at sequestration levels and thus are very interested in talks that have begun under the leadership of Senate Budget Committee Chair Patty Murray (D-WA) and House Budget Committee Chair Paul Ryan (R-WI). Both are expressing optimism about an agreement and leadership in both chambers have appointed conferees to this committee in order to get on with the negotiations. Given failures of previous attempts, such as the Supercommittee formed after the Budget Control Act of 2011, there is skepticism that these conferees will be able to reach an agreement on a budget bill this time either. However, Congressional Republicans experienced significant blowback over the partial federal government shutdown and their posturing over the debt ceiling, so there appears to be a desire among the Congressional Republican leadership to move past their recent brinksmanship. At the same time, Congressional Republicans are expressing support for retaining sequestration cuts, and their negotiators may propose changes to entitlement programs. Congressional Democrats are hoping to repeal or modify those mandated budget cuts, and they are calling for additional revenue as part of any deal. That's the latest.

World Congress of the IUFRO to Be Held in Salt Lake City

A rare event will take place October 5—11, 2014. The World Congress of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah. The last IUFRO conference held in the U.S. was in 1971. The theme of the 2014 conference is *Sustaining Forests, Sustaining People...The Role of Research*. Information about the Salt Lake City conference can be found at <http://www.iufro.org/events/congresses/2014/>.

NAUFRP will provide partial scholarships to be used for graduate students of NAUFRP institutions. These awards will be allocated toward the World Congress registration. Only one student per institution will be eligible. Details about applying will be released soon.



\$100,000 National Agricultural Innovation Prize Launched

The Howard G. Buffett Foundation and the University of Wisconsin-Madison announced the launch of the 2014 National Agricultural Innovation Prize. In collaboration with the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, the competition is open to U. S. undergraduate and graduate students across **all** academic disciplines. The competition runs through the Spring 2014 and teams will compete for a chance to win \$100,000. **With over \$200,000 in total cash awards, this will be the largest student-focused competition on agriculture in the world.**

The competition encourages student teams to develop innovative ways and real-world plans to address social and agricultural challenges within food systems to improve the standard of living and quality of life for the world's population. Student teams should be transdisciplinary and their initial entry must consist of the following:

- a narrative of the business proposal that does not exceed two pages
- a 200-word abstract of the business plan (that may be made publicly available)
- a presentation (in the format of .ppt or .pptx) not to exceed ten slides



Student team entries are due by **February 28, 2014**. More information about the competition can be found at: <http://agprize.com> and at <http://www.40Chances.com>.